WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

1. A device for selecting a programme from a plurality of programmes, each programme being composed of a plurality of data series, the device being used with a network which conveys a plurality of different data streams, each data stream conveying one or more programmes, the device comprising:

a plurality of manually operable members, each allowing at least one manual operation; and

a command generator to issue commands able to select a programme from the plurality of programmes within the network based on the operation of one or more manually operable members amongst the plurality of manually operable members;

characterised in that said command generator is arranged to issue the commands so that a particular manual operation of said one or more manually operable members is able to cause, without other manual operations of the plurality of manually operable members, a selection of the programme from the one or more programmes within one data stream and a selection of the data stream, from which the programme is selected, from the plurality of different data streams.

2. A device according to claim 1, characterised in that the network comprises a plurality of sub networks, each network conveying one or more data streams and said command generator issues the commands so that the particular manual operation of said one or more manually operable members is further able to cause, without other manual operations of the plurality of manually operable members, a selection of a sub network, from which the programme is selected, from the plurality of sub networks.

3. A device according to claim 2, characterised in that said command generator issues the commands so that the particular manual operation of said one or more manually operable members continuously causes

a selection of a data stream from data streams conveyed within the selected sub network.

4. A device according to claim 1, characterised in that said one or more manually operable members and said command generator are in a remote control device which is used for controlling an apparatus remote from the remote control device.

5. A device according to claim 1, characterised in that said one or more manually operable members include an increment and/or a decrement key for incrementing and/or decrementing a programme number.

6. A device according to claim 1, further comprising means for obtaining information regarding the network and information regarding types and contents of the programmes.

7. An apparatus for selecting a programme from a plurality of programmes, each programme being composed of a plurality of data series, the apparatus being connected to a network which conveys a plurality of different data streams, each data stream conveying one or more programmes, the apparatus comprising:

a receiver arranged to receive commands based on manual operations of a plurality of manually operable members each of which allows at least one manual operation; and

a control circuit arranged to select a programme from the plurality of programmes within the network based on the received commands;

characterised in that said control circuit selects the programme from the one or more programmes within one data stream and further selects the data stream, from which the programme is selected, from the plurality of different data streams in response to a specific manual operation of one or more manually operable members amongst the plurality of manually operable

members without other manual operations of the plurality of manually operable members.

8. An apparatus according to claim 7, characterised in that said control circuit continuously selects the programme from the programmes conveyed by the selected data stream in response to the specific manual operation of said one or more manually operable members.

9. An apparatus according to claim 7, characterised in that the network comprises a plurality of sub networks, each network conveying one or more data streams and said control circuit selects a sub network, from which the programme is selected, from the plurality of sub networks in response to the specific manual operation of said one or more manually operable members without other manual operations of the plurality of manually operable members.

10. An apparatus according to claim 9, characterised in that said control circuit continuously selects a data stream from the data streams within the selected sub network in response to the specific manual operation of said one or more manually operable members.

11. An apparatus according to claim 7, characterised in that said one or more manually operable members are located in a remote control device which is used for controlling the apparatus.

12. An apparatus according to claim 11, characterised in that said one or more manually operable members include an increment and/or a decrement key for incrementing and/or decrementing a programme number.

13. An apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising means for obtaining information regarding the network and information regarding types and contents of programmes in the network, and wherein said control circuit

selects the programme in accordance with the information obtained by said obtaining means.

14. An apparatus according to claim 13, further comprising means for transferring at least a part of the information obtained by said obtaining means to the remote control device.

15. An apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising a decoder for decoding different programmes encoded by different compression methods.

16. A method of selecting a programme from a plurality of programmes within a communication network, each programme being composed of a plurality of data series, wherein the network conveys a plurality of different data streams, each data stream conveying one or more programmes, the method comprising the steps of:

issuing commands based on manual operations of a plurality of manually operable members, each allowing at least one manual operation; and

selecting a programme from the plurality of programmes within the network based on the issued commands,

characterised in that the programme is selected in said selecting step from the one or more programmes within one data stream and the data stream, from which the programme is selected, is selected from the plurality of different data streams in said selecting step, in response to a specific manual operation of one or more manually operable members amongst the plurality of manually operable members without other manual operations of the plurality of manually operable members.

17. A method according to claim 16, characterised in that the programme is continuously selected from the programmes within the selected data streams in response to the specific manual operation of said one or more manually operable members in said selecting step.

18. A method according to claim 16, characterised in that the network comprises a plurality of sub networks, each network conveying one or more data streams, wherein a sub network, from which the programme is selected, is further selected from the plurality of sub networks in response to the specific operation of said one or more manually operable members without other manual operations of the plurality of said manually operable members in said selecting step.

19. A method according to claim 18, characterised in that a data stream within the selected sub network is continuously selected in response to the specific operation of said one or more manually operable members in said selecting step.

20. A method according to claim 16, further comprising a step of obtaining information regarding the network and information regarding types and contents of programmes in the network, and wherein the programme is selected in said selecting step in accordance with the information obtained in said obtaining step.

21. A computer programme product wherein the computer programme comprises instruction sequences arranged to select a programme from a plurality of programmes within a communication network, each programme being composed of a plurality of data series, wherein the network conveys a plurality of different data streams, each data stream conveying one or more programmes, the computer programme arranged to:

issue commands based on manual operations of a plurality of manually operable members, each allowing at least one manual operation; and

select a programme from the plurality of programmes within the network based on the issued commands,

wherein the programme is selected in said selecting step from the one or more programmes within one data stream and the data stream, from

which the programme is selected, is selected from the plurality of different data streams in said selecting step, in response to a specific manual operation of one or more manually operable members amongst the plurality of manually operable members without other manual operations of the plurality of manually operable members.

22. A data storage device which can be read by a computer or a microprocessor storing instructions of a computer programme, characterised in that the storage device makes it possible to select a programme from a plurality of programmes within a communication network, each programme being composed of a plurality of data series, wherein the network conveys a plurality of different data streams, each data stream conveying one or more programmes, the instructions of the computer programme arranged to:

issue commands based on manual operations of a plurality of manually operable members, each allowing at least one manual operation; and

select a programme from the plurality of programmes within the network based on the issued commands,

wherein the programme is selected in said selecting step from the one or more programmes within one data stream and the data stream, from which the programme is selected, is selected from the plurality of different data streams in said selecting step, in response to a specific manual operation of one or more manually operable members amongst the plurality of manually operable means without other manual operations of the plurality of manually operable members.